

ISSUE DATE: January 12, 1999

DOCKET NO. **P-504/ES-98-1847**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911 SYSTEM COSTS

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Edward Garvey
Joel Jacobs
Marshall Johnson
Gregory Scott
LeRoy Koppendrayer

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of **Benton Cooperative Telephone Company's** Request for Approval of Certified Actual Costs Associated with the **Mille Lacs County** 911 Emergency Telephone Services System

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PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On November 24, 1981, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Mille Lacs County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Services System.

On April 1, 1987, Benton Cooperative Telephone Company (the Company) placed a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone System into service in Mille Lacs County.

On June 24, 1987, the Company certified the actual costs it incurred for the provision of 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Mille Lacs County.

On August 3, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs for the provision of 911 Telephone Service in Mille Lacs County.

On January 1, 1998, the Company added Automatic Location Identification (ALI) to the 911 Telephone Service in Mille Lacs County.

On August 1, 1998, the Company added two circuits to the Bock and Foreston exchanges in the 911 Telephone Service System in Mille Lacs County

On December 3, 1998, the Company certified the actual costs incurred for the provision of ALI and the additional circuits to the 911 Telephone Service in Mille Lacs County.

Benton Cooperative Telephone Company is now requesting Commission approval of the additional actual 911 system costs. Commission approval is necessary before the Department of Administration (DOA) will make payments for 911 system costs.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11, subd. 3 states:

Subd. 3 (METHOD OF PAYMENT; CERTIFICATION.) A public utility incurring reimbursable costs under subdivision 1 or 2 shall certify those costs to the commissioner of administration. The certification shall be in a form as prescribed by the commissioner after consultation with the public utilities commission. If the commissioner and the commission approve the certified costs as appropriate and accurate, the commissioner shall pay the certified costs from money appropriated for that purpose within 90 days following receipt by the commissioner of the certified costs. The commissioner of administration shall estimate the amount required to reimburse public utilities for the state's obligations under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this section and the governor shall include the estimated amount in the biennial budget request.

Benton Cooperative Telephone Company has certified, in writing, that the elements of 911 services and associated costs indicated on Attachment A reflect only charges for services actually rendered in the direct provision of 911 service in Mille Lacs County.

All charges listed on Attachment A are in accordance with the Company's tariffs.

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Mille Lacs County which have been certified by the Company are appropriate and accurate.

Policy References:

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11 System Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1400 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Recurring Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1500 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Central Office Modification Costs

ORDER

1. The costs identified on Attachment A accompanying this Order are approved as appropriate and accurate.
2. This Order does not approve payment of any 911 system costs. Any possible future approval of payment for system costs shall be granted by the Commissioner of the Department of Administration in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 403.11.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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STATE OF MINNESOTA)
)SS
COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I _____, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That on the ____ day of _____, 1998 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Mille Lacs County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P-504/ES-98-1847.**

XX By depositing in the United States Mail at the City of St. Paul, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage prepaid

XX By personal service

XX By inter-office mail

to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list:

MR BILL SCHNELLMAN
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
500 CENTENNIAL OFFICE BUILDING
658 CEDAR STREET
ST PAUL MN 55155

MS CHERYL SCAPANSKI
GENERAL MANAGER
BENTON COOPERATIVE TELCO
2220 125TH STREET NW
RICE MN 56367

JAMES R BEUTELSPACHER
STATE 9-1-1 PROJECT MANAGER
BUSINESS TECHNOLOGIES DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
500 CENTENNIAL OFFICE BUILDING
658 CEDAR STREET
ST PAUL MN 55155

Subscribed and sworn to before me, _____

a notary public, this ____ day of

_____, 1998.

Notary Public